

Claim 1 has further been amended to indicate that only a single rubber member is utilized in the applicant's invention as described in now amended Claim 1. Thus, the spring which is described as a shear spring includes a single rubber member bonded between first and second plates. In the Holland reference, two rubber members 56 are used and are necessary since they are subjected only to compressive forces due to a rotation of box frame 28 about shaft 36. In the applicant's invention, the spring is subjected principally to shear forces to accommodate full horizontal planar motion. Thus, the pin box assembly of the applicant's invention accommodates full longitudinal movement of the trailer relative to the towing vehicle as well as lateral movement during turning of the towing vehicle. The operation of the dual rubber members 56 in the bolster 26 in Holland is to accommodate only rocking movement, a completely different purpose and mode of operation than the pin box assembly of the applicant. As such, it is believed Claim 1 independent Claim 8 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Holland.

Claims 2, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C., Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holland in view of Sallier. The arguments advanced as to the allowability of amended Claim 1 apply equally to depending Claims 2 and 8. Claim 6 has been amended to indicate that the first edge portions on the top member define bent-over ends. This language was taken from conditionally allowed Claim 7. Neither Holland nor Sallier discloses this construction and as such it is believed that Claim 6, as it is currently amended, is an allowable form.

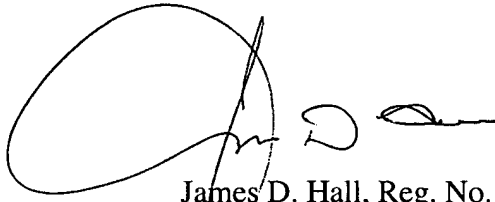
Claims 3-5, 7, 9 and 11-23 were objected to by the examiner. The conditional allowance of these claims is noted with appreciation. Claim 3, 9, 11, 14, and 20 have been placed in independent form including all of the limitations of any intervening claims.

Accordingly, it is believed that Claim 3, 9, 11, 14, and 20, and those claims depending therefrom are allowable form.

Payment of \$300 is submitted concurrently with this response to cover the additional 5 independent Claims.

Also, accompanying this response is a revocation of the former Power of Attorney and appointment of a new Power of Attorney with a change of correspondence address.

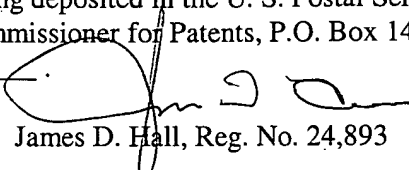
Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James D. Hall', with a large, stylized initial 'J' and 'H'.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the U. S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 18 Jan. 05.

  
James D. Hall, Reg. No. 24,893